

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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TAGS: OEXC, PL

SUBJECT:AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER

REF: WARSAW 7180

1. CU/EE DIRECTOR DISCUSSED AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER WITH INDIANA'S GEORGE WILSON JANUARY 3, AND EMPHASIZED DEPARTMENT'S AND EMBASSY'S INTEREST IN RECRUITING QUALIFIED DIRECTOR TO ENABLE CENTER TO OPEN IN FALL 1975.

2. WILSON IN PRINCIPLE IS AGREEABLE TO ILLINOIS JOINING WITH INDIANA IN POOLING RESOURCES TO STAFF THE CENTER, AS WELL AS MERGING THE ILLINOIS-WARSAW HISTORY LECTURE EXCHANGE WITH THE AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER. FOLLOWING COMPLICATIONS, HOWEVER, SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. ILLINOIS PROFESSOR WALLACE FARNHAM IS INTERESTED IN RETURNING TO WARSAW FOR AY 75/76 AS ILLINOIS VISITING LECTURER IN HISTORY. WILSON HAS RAISED WITH FARNHAM POSSIBILITY OF HIS ALSO SERVING AS CENTER DIRECTOR. (FYI FARNHAM DECLINED DECLARING HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THE CENTER'S APPROACH, AS HE UNDERSTANDS IT, WILL BE SUFFICIENTLY SCHOLARLY. BOTH WILSON AND CU/EE DIRECTOR BELIEVE FARNHAM IS MISINFORMED ABOUT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PLANS FOR THE CENTER. FARNHAM ALSO HOPES TO SPEND SOME OF HIS TIME IN WARSAW WRITING

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BOOK ON AMERICAN HISTORY AND WOULD NOT HAVE TIME TO DEVOTE TO CENTER. END FYI). REQUEST EMBASSY VIEWS ON ADVISABILITY FARNAM RETURNING TO WARSAW AS EITHER ILLINOIS LECTURER OR CENTER DIRECTOR, BEARING IN MIND THAT HE COULD PERHAPS DIVIDE HIS DUTIES BETWEEN CENTER AND HISTORY INSTITUTE AS SUGGESTED BY WARSAW PROFESSOR GIEYSZTOR (REFTEL).

3. ANOTHER POSSIBLE CANDIDATE FOR CENTER DIRECTOR IS ROBERT GUNDERSON, INDIANA PROFESSOR OF SPEECH AND CURRENTLY CHAIRMAN OF INDIANA AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO INFORMALLY SOLICIT WILES' VIEWS ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS.

4. CU/EE DIRECTOR AGAIN URGED INDIANA AND ILLINOIS TO POOL

RESOURCES IN STAFFING BOTH THE AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER AND THE HISTORY LECTURER EXCHANGE, SINCE IT APPEARS THAT ILLINOIS IS ALSO HAVING DIFFICULTY FINDING QUALIFIED HISTORY LECTURERS. UNDER SUCH ARRANGEMENT THE TWO UNIVERSITIES COULD ALTERNATE IN NOMINATING CANDIDATES FOR THE CENTER DIRECTOR AND HISTORY LECTURER. KISSINGER

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